

TITLE**METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR REFRESHMENT AND REUSE OF LOADED
DEVELOPER**

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ABSTRACT

A method and an apparatus for the refreshment and reuse of loaded developers used in lithographic printing are disclosed. The pH of an aqueous, essentially silicate-free loaded developer is reduced to below about 11. Insoluble material is separated, and the pH increased to about 12.0 to 14.0 to produce a refreshed developer. The refreshed developer may be used to develop additional exposed printing plate precursors.

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